between T$an6v and Eciifoeville. It suffered its first casualties on'qrd November, 1917, when the Germans raided one of its posts, and three Americans were killed, five wounded and twelve captured. By 3ist December, 1917, the total strength of the American Expeditionary Force that had reached Europe was 9,804 officers and 165,080 men. These included four divisions in various stages of organisation and training. For their heavier equipment they had for some time to rely mainly on the French and British. On 28th February, 1918, General Pershing pointed out in a telegram to his Government that "as a matter of fact, there is not to-day a single American-made plane in Europe." And until a much later date, practically all their artillery was supplied by the French and ourselves. Partly this was due to their complete lack of equipment for war on a European scale, and partly to the acute shortage of shipping, which hampered the bringing of supplies across the Atlantic.

How that situation was transformed by the time that hostilities ceased belongs to a later stage of my narrative.